

MAR 08 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENDORISING AND ADOPTING, AND URGING FEDERAL LEADERS AND THE
NATION TO ENDORSE, THE TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS TO SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOAL 16 FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is a place of peace in the Pacific and its
2 people believe in a better world for all; and
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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii supports the United Nations sustainable
5 development goals and recognizes the interconnectedness of all
6 goals to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
7 around the globe; and
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9 WHEREAS, since the height of the Cold War, the United
10 States and Russia have dismantled more than fifty thousand
11 nuclear warheads, but approximately fourteen thousand five
12 hundred of these weapons still exist and pose an intolerable
13 risk to human survival; and
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15 WHEREAS, over ninety percent of these weapons are in the
16 hands of the United States and Russia and the rest are held by
17 seven other countries: China, France, Israel, India, North
18 Korea, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom; and
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20 WHEREAS, Hawaii witnessed how the chaos and harm even a
21 missile threat lasting for only thirty minutes can impact the
22 islands; and
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24 WHEREAS, the use of even a tiny fraction of these weapons
25 could cause worldwide climate disruption and global famine; for
26 example, as few as one hundred Hiroshima-sized bombs, small by
27 modern standards, would put at least five million tons of soot
28 into the upper atmosphere and cause climate disruption across
29 the planet, cutting food production and putting two billion
30 people at risk of starvation; and
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32 WHEREAS, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of
33 millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental
34 damage and catastrophic climate disruption by dropping



1 temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last
2 ice age; under these conditions the vast majority of the human
3 race would starve and could lead to human extinction as a
4 species; and

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6 WHEREAS, despite assurances that these arsenals exist
7 solely to guarantee that they are never used, there have been
8 many occasions when nuclear armed states have prepared to use
9 these weapons, and war has been averted only at the last minute;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, nuclear weapons do not possess some magical
13 quality that prevents their use; and

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15 WHEREAS, former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara said,
16 speaking about the Cuban Missile Crisis, "[i]t was luck that
17 prevented nuclear war," yet the United States' nuclear policy
18 cannot be the hope that luck will continue; and

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20 WHEREAS, as the effects of climate change place increased
21 stress on communities around the world and intensify the
22 likelihood of conflict, the danger of nuclear war will grow; and

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24 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a significant population of
25 Marshall Islanders, whose homeland was the site of sixty-seven
26 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests during the Cold War, and who
27 have not been adequately compensated for the catastrophic
28 environmental and health consequences of such horrific testing;
29 and

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31 WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of more than
32 \$1,000,000,000,000 to enhance the United States' nuclear arsenal
33 will not only increase the risk of nuclear disaster but fuel a
34 global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to assure
35 the well-being of the American people and people all over the
36 world; and

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38 WHEREAS, there is an alternative to this march toward
39 nuclear war: in July 2017, one hundred twenty-two nations
40 called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by adopting
41 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; now,
42 therefore,



S.R. NO. 46

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that this body endorses and adopts the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to support the United Nations sustainable goal 16 for peace, justice, and strong intuitions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that federal leaders and the nation are urged to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of the United States' national security policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body calls upon federal leaders and the nation to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first; ending the President's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack; taking United States nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert; canceling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Minority Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, Secretary-General of the United Nations, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, Governor of the State of Hawaii, and each mayor of the several counties.

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